

Britain, Great Valley aided America's Revolutionary War effort by providing supplies to help troops encamped at nearby Valley Forge survive the brutal winter of 1777–1778.

While the Church and the area surrounding it has evolved immeasurably since the days when farmers and their families worshiped in a "little country church," the tremendous commitment to nurturing the spiritual growth of members and strengthening the bonds between neighbors and families has remained constant.

A worship service to give thanks for 300 years of faith and service will conclude the Church's tercentennial celebration on Sunday, September 19, 2010.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating the Congregation of Great Valley Presbyterian Church as they commemorate this memorable milestone and in extending best wishes for continued success and growth.

#### CONGRATULATING THE MOJAVE AIR AND SPACE PORT ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 16, 2010*

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an airport in my community that has been at the forefront of aerospace milestones. Mojave Air and Space Port, located in Mojave, California, is celebrating 75 years of service and cutting edge innovation this upcoming September 18, 2010.

The Mojave Air and Space Port has a unique history. Starting as a rural airstrip in 1935, the Mojave Airport provided access to the local gold and silver mining industry. After seven years of serving the local mining industry, the U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) shifted the focus of the airport and turned it into the Marine Corps Auxiliary Station (MCAAS) Mojave in 1942. In 1946, MCAAS Mojave was converted into a U.S. Navy airfield. In 1951, the USMC reopened MCAAS Mojave as an auxiliary field, Marine Corps Air Station El Toro. In 1961, Kern County acquired the airport, and in 1972, and the East Kern Airport District was formed to direct the airport.

The Mojave Air and Space Port has three core focuses: flight testing, space industry development, and aircraft heavy maintenance and storage. With its convenient location close to Edwards Air Force Base, the Mojave Air and Space Port has been a leader in flight testing activities for over 30 years. Beginning in the late 1990s, the Mojave Air and Space Port became a hub for small companies seeking a place to develop space flight technologies, with the first flight tests starting in 1999. In 2004, it was the first spaceport certified by the Federal Aviation Administration to be licensed for horizontal launches of reusable launch vehicles in the United States.

The Mojave Air and Space Port is the home to the Rutan Model 76 Voyager aircraft, designed by Burt Rutan and piloted by his brother Dick Rutan, where they set a record-breaking flight around the world without stopping to refuel in 1986. Model 281 Proteus, a tandem-wing high-endurance aircraft designed by Burt and tested at the Mojave Air and Space Port, holds several altitude records.

The Mojave Air and Space Port is also home to SpaceShipOne. It is the first, and so far only, privately built, flown, and funded aircraft to launch and enter a man into space in June of 2004. This feat was acknowledged with the Ansari X Prize, and the 2004 Collier Trophy later that year, awarded by the National Aeronautic Association. Today, SpaceShipOne is displayed in the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum's "Milestones of Flight" gallery in Washington, D.C. SpaceShipTwo is now in development and will continue to transform the commercial space industry.

Today, the Mojave Air and Space Port occupies about 3,300 acres and serves as a world renowned flight resource center. The airport is home to over 40 companies, ranging from small industrial to highly advanced aeronautical design firms. XCOR is a small business that is building a spacecraft to take individuals to space. Recently, NASA awarded funding to tenant Masten Space Systems through the NASA Commercial Reusable Sub-orbital Research Program to finance the development and testing of the Xaero vehicle which will make four flights from the Mojave Air and Space Port to demonstrate reusable launch and small payloads going to near-space.

The Mojave Air and Space Port continues to break new ground and expand its facilities as it recently extended its largest runway to 12,500 feet and integrated a new commercial development taxiway system. The Mojave Air and Space Port not only is known for its revolutionary air and space technology, but it also boasts an extensive resume in film production. The airport has been the host to movies, television shows, commercials and music videos.

Today, the Mojave Air and Space Port is run and supported by the leadership of the East Kern Airport District. The East Kern Airport District encourages entrepreneurship and flourishes, existing by its mission statement to, "Foster and maintain our recognized aerospace presence with a principle focus as the world's premier civilian aerospace test center while seeking compatibly diverse business and industry." The Mojave Air and Space Port is under the forward-thinking leadership of the East Kern Airport District Board Members Jim Balentine, JoAnn Painter, Marie Walker, Dick Rutan, and Cathy Hansen and General Manager, Stuart Witt, along with his team of dedicated individuals.

The Mojave Air and Space Port is also home to the Intermediate Space Challenge. Through this program, the Mojave Air and Space Port opens its facility to young students in 4th, 5th and 6th grade, enabling them to work together in a team environment to choose a team name, create team banners, craft an essay, and develop and use their math and science skills to construct and launch a small rocket under appropriate supervision. Along with involving the community in this revolutionary program, the Mojave Air and Space Port also encourages teachers and administrators across the country to implement similar programs that stimulate students and infuse them with a love of engineering, mathematics, and science.

The Mojave Air and Space Port has given the community 75 years of exceptional service. It is a keystone of our aerospace achievements not only in California but around the nation and throughout the world. I applaud the Mojave Air and Space Port for its innovative

research and its service as a public airport and will continue to support its place in America's air and space development for years to come.

#### IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF 2010 HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 16, 2010*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of 2010 Hispanic Heritage Month, as we celebrate the members of this community and their invaluable contributions to the Greater Cleveland Area and to our country.

Hispanic Heritage month celebrates and illuminates the significant contributions that Americans of Hispanic heritage have had on American culture. Hispanic Americans have contributed immeasurably toward efforts to elevate the human condition.

Americans of Hispanic descent have served our country in numerous ways—as elected officials, teachers, musicians, physicians, veterans, community activists, and dedicated employees in virtually every sector of the economy. Their rich and diverse culture has touched the life of every American has been an invaluable addition to Cleveland's diverse social fabric.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and celebration of Hispanic Heritage month of 2010, as we recognize the great contributions made by Hispanic Americans in my district and around the country.

#### COMMEMORATING CONSTITUTION DAY

**HON. SPENCER BACHUS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 16, 2010*

Mr. BACHUS. Madam Speaker, September 17th is Constitution Day, a time to show appreciation for the foundational and supreme law of our land that deserves special attention this year. The principles of the U.S. Constitution have successfully guided our Nation through times of both prosperity and challenge. The genius of our Constitution rests in the Founding Fathers' intricate system of checks and balances and the division of powers between the states and the national government. This has helped ensure that the people are the masters of their government, rather than its servants. The 10th Amendment was particularly prescient in recognizing that the most effective, responsive, and representative government is that which is closest to its citizens. It has long been my practice to distribute copies of the Constitution to the school groups with whom I meet, and I am greatly encouraged by the millions of patriotic Americans who are now dedicating themselves to reaffirming and restoring the principles of limited government and personal freedom. Public and personal readings of the Constitution are taking place throughout Alabama and our country in recognition of Constitution Day. All Americans should reflect on an enduring document that has given us the magnificent gifts of